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19147**

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United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Board of National Missions.  
Department of Work in Alaska.  
Records, 1874-1972.  
Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3  
9.25 cubic feet



## ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

Presbyterian mission work in Alaska began informally in 1877. The Rev. A. L. Lindsley, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Portland, Oregon, supported Mrs. Amanda McFarland, a minister's widow, who went to Ft. Wrangell to take over the school that had been started by a layman sent by Lindsley and that was being taught by a native. Sheldon Jackson accompanied Mrs. McFarland, and when he returned to the States, through publicity and personal tours he raised money and recruited workers for missions in Alaska. At the urging of Dr. Lindsley and Jackson, the Board of Home Missions assumed the responsibility for the Alaska field in 1878. The Rev. John C. Brady, later governor of the Territory of Alaska, and Miss Fannie E. Kellogg, a teacher, both recruited by Jackson, went to Sitka in 1878. The mission school developed in the Sheldon Jackson School that still exists as the Sheldon Jackson Junior College.

In 1878 the Rev. S. Hall Young was sent by the Board of Home Missions to Ft. Wrangell where he established the first Protestant church for the natives in Alaska in 1879. He and the naturalist John Muir visited Chiclat Bay. He established a mission among the Chiclat Indians, later named Haines after Mrs. F. E. Haines, the first secretary of the Woman's Executive Committee. The first resident missionary family arrived in 1881, and a boarding school was established in 1883. Haines House, a home for children and youth, remained in service in different forms until the 1960s.

In 1880 Sheldon Jackson invited the secretaries of the mission boards of the Protestant denominations to a meeting that established a comity agreement for dividing the mission work in Alaska. The Presbyterians accepted responsibility for Southeastern Alaska where they had already initiated mission work and for the far northern regions. Despite the comity agreement inter-church relations were not always smooth, particularly after the arrival of smaller groups and denominations such as the Salvation Army and the Pentecostals.

In 1885, Sheldon Jackson was appointed General Agent for Education for the Department of Interior. He combined educational work with an annual inspection tour of the missions, and he lobbied Congress for native rights and for support of his project to bring reindeer to Alaska in 1892.

From 1878 to 1923 the work was supported by two boards, the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Executive Committee, called after 1897, the Woman's Board of Home Missions. The Woman's Board supported some of the medical work. Haines House was administered by the Woman's Board.

In 1901 the Board of Home Missions appointed Dr. S. Hall Young as its first General Missionary to Alaska. He served until 1912, when Dr. James H. Condit was appointed and



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served until 1922. Young again accepted the position for 1922-1923. The Rev. Paul H. Prouty held the position from 1944 to 1950.

After the major reorganization of 1923 that consolidated the various boards, the Board of National Missions administered the work in Alaska. The work of the former Board of Home Missions was continued by the Department of Town and Country Work of the BNM, and later the Office/Department of Work in Alaska, and the work that had been established by the Woman's Board came under the direction of the Division of Schools and Hospitals. The new Department of Sunday School Missions conducted Sunday School work in Alaska. The executives were as follows:

Department of Town and Country Work, 1924-1932

Dr. Andrew Montgomery, Director.

Unit of Work in Alaska, 1932-1948

John M. Somerndike, Secretary, 1932-1939

Everett B. King, Secretary, 1939-1943

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary, 1944-1948

Department of Work in Alaska, 1949-1972

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary, 1949-

The educational and medical missions were administered as follows:

Division of Schools and Hospitals, 1924-1932

Edna R. Voss, Secretary

Unit of Schools and Hospitals, 1932-1934

Edna R. Voss, Secretary

Department of Educational and Medical Work, 1935-1948

Edna R. Voss, Secretary until 1947

Katharine E. Gladfelter, 1948

Division of Educational and Medical Work, 1949-1972

Katharine E. Gladfelter, 1949-

Southeastern Alaska was organized as the Presbytery of Alaska and the vast interior of the territory as the Presbytery of the Yukon. These presbyteries were part of the Synod of Washington and later of the Synod of Washington-Alaska and the Synod of Alaska-Northwest. With the major denominational reorganization of 1972, the presbyteries assumed responsibility for the work in Alaska.

The Board of Home Missions/Board of National Missions built and maintained a fleet of small motor boats that served as floating ambulances and clinics and transported workers and



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natives among the waterways of southeastern Alaska. A total of nine boats were put into operation from 1909 until the sale of the last boat in 1983.

The Board of National Missions provided missionaries specialized ministries as the occasion arose. In 1935, during the Great Depression the Federal Government settled families from the lower States in Matanuska Valley at Palmer; Presbyterian missionaries were sent. When the Alaska Highway was built the Alaska Highway Parish was established and when during the Cold War a radar system for early warning (the DEW Line) was constructed in the northern region the Presbyterians conducted ministry to the construction workers and servicemen.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection consists largely of field correspondence and reports from home missionaries in Alaska to the Office/Department of Work in Alaska of the Board of National Missions and for the work at Haines House, Haines, Alaska, to the Division of Educational and Medical Work. A major portion of the records deal with property matters including legal documents (leases and contracts) and surveys.

The correspondence of S. Hall Young, a pioneer missionary in Alaska and later general missionary, and James Condit, general missionary, is especially full for the period of about 1897-1922. There are also a few letters of Sheldon Jackson. The extensive correspondence of Dr. William R. Greist, who served 16 years at Barrow, includes a report of the airplane accident that killed Wiley Post and Will Rogers in 1936.

The relationship of the Presbyterian Church and the federal government is illustrated by correspondence with senators, the Bureau of Education, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

### **NOTES TO RESEARCHERS**

Researchers should also consult Record Group 239, the Sheldon Jackson Papers, for other information relating to the work in Alaska.

The collection is arranged accordingly:

SERIES I: Missionary and Field Correspondence, 1890-1965

SUBSERIES I: Missionary Correspondence, 1897-1965

SUBSERIES II: Field Correspondence, Missions, 1890-1960

SERIES II: Field Reports, 1943-1961

SUBSERIES I: Monthly Reports, 1943-1944, 1958-1961

### **Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3**

SUBSERIES II: Annual Narrative Reports, 1957-1961

SUBSERIES III: Annual Statistical Reports, 1959-1960

SERIES III: Applications for Missionary Appointment, 1918-1948

SERIES IV: Applications for National Missions Aid, 1936-1960

SERIES V: Subject Files, 1906-1965, n.d.

SERIES VI: Presbyterian Mission Motor Vessels, 1922-1972, n.d.

SUBSERIES I: "The Princeton" and "The A.L. Lindsey,"  
1922-1948

SUBSERIES II: "The Princeton-Hall," 1940-1960

SUBSERIES III: "The Anna Jackman," 1956-1972, n.d.

SERIES VII: Historical Sketches, 1886-1957, n.d.

SERIES VIII: Property Records, 1874-1960

SUBSERIES I: Property Correspondence, 1894-1960

SUBSERIES II: Blueprints, Surveys, Plot Plans, 1874-1950

SUBSERIES III: Sale and Leasing of Property, 1909-1957, n.d.

SERIES IX: Newsletters and Pamphlets, 1882-1972, n.d.

SUBSERIES I: Newsletters, 1892-1960

SUBSERIES II: Pamphlets, Leaflets, Clippings, 1882-1972,  
n.d.

SERIES X: Haines Mission and Haines House, 1885-1967, n.d.

SUBSERIES I: Property Correspondence, 1904-1962, 1967

SUBSERIES II: Surveys (Maps), 1896-1948, n.d.

SUBSERIES III: Legal Records (Contracts and Leases), 1905-1955



### **Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3**

SUBSERIES IV: Promotion and Publicity, 1885?-1959, n.d.

SUBSERIES V: Haines Hospital, 1913-1918

Collection processed and finding aid prepared: 1986  
Janet Brice Bishop, Assistant Archivist

Collection reprocessed and additional material incorporated: February 1992  
Glenn Colliver, Assistant Archivist

Some reprocessing done in preparation for microfilming: January 2005  
Nancy Taylor, Records Archivist



## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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1	1	Finding Aid to RG301.3
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**SERIES I: MISSIONARY AND FIELD CORRESPONDENCE, 1890-1965**

**SUBSERIES I: MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE, 1897-1965**

2	Adams, W. B. (Sitka), Report re Sheldon Jackson School, ca. 1914
3	Ahmaogak, Roy (Wainwright, Barrow), Correspondence and Clippings, 1939-1943, 1951, 1957, 1961, 1965
4	Ahmaogak, Roy, Correspondence with J. Earl Jackman, 1944-1945
5	1946
6	Akootchook, Andrew (Barter Island), 1939-1951
7	Alfsen, Victor (Palmer), 1943-1946, 1958
8	Altman, Elenor (Anchorage), 1945-1946
9	Armstrong, R. Roland (Fairbanks), 1940-1941
10	Arthur, Thomas C. (Ketchikan), 1940
11	Bannan, Ann (Wales), 1930-1932
12	Bannan, Ann (Gambell), 1934-1936
13	1937-1940
14	1940-1944
15	Barrows, Willard E. (Juneau), 1940-1942
16	Bechtel, Gertrude (Fairbanks), 1944
17	1945
18	Beck, George (Ketchikan), 1934-1935
19	Betts, George R. (Kake and Angoon), 1935-1936, 1938-1940
20	Betts, George R. (Petersburg), 1940-1945
21	Betts, George R. (Hoonah), 1945-1946
22	Betts, George R. (Hoonah and Angoon), 1953, 1956-1959, 1961
23	Bily, Arthur (Sitka), 1941-1943
24	Bingle, Bert J. (Yukon Presbytery Sunday School Missionary; Palmer), 1934-1936, 1941
25	Bingle, Bert J. (Wartime Alaska Highway Chaplain), 1942
26	Bingle, Bert J. 1943
27	Bingle, Bert J. 1944-1945
28	Bingle, Bert J. (Yukon Presbytery Sunday School Missionary), 1946
29	Bingle, Bert J. (Yukon Presbytery Sunday School Missionary), 1953-1960; "My 28 Years in the Yukon Presbytery", 1958
30	Booth, Willis (Juneau), 1941-1942
31	Booth, Willis (Juneau), 1942-1943
32	Bruce, George (Juneau), 1920-1922
33	Bromley, E.E. (Bayview), 1921-1923
34	Bromley, E.E. (Hoonah), 1938-1943

## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

### Box Folder Description

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 35 | Buchanan, R.A. (Sitka), 1919-1924                     |
|   | 36 | Campbell, Edgar (Gambell), 1942-1948                  |
|   | 37 | Campbell, Louisa K. (Gambell), 1903-1909              |
|   | 38 | Champlin, N. Harry (Wrangel and Fairbanks), 1940-1941 |
|   | 39 | Champlin, N. Harry (Wrangel and Fairbanks), 1942-1946 |
|   | 40 | Christiansen, Donald G. (Ketchikan), 1938-1941        |

James H. Condit, General Missionary, 1913-1921

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
|   | 41 | Correspondence, 1913-1915   |
|   | 42 | 1916-1919   |
|   | 43 | January-June 1917   |
|   | 44 | July-December 1917  |
|   | 45 | Report, 1917  |
|   | 46 | Correspondence, Controversy re Entrance of<br>Sunday School Workers, 1916-1918                                  |
|   | 47 | Correspondence, 1919  |
|   | 48 | January-July 1920   |
|   | 49 | August-December 1920  |
|   | 50 | January-April 1921  |
|   | 51 | May-September 1921  |
|   | 52 | October-December 1921   |
| 2 | 1  | 1922-1923, 1942   |
|   | 2  | Crawford, David H. (Cordova), 1939-1941   |
|   | 3  | 1941-1943   |
|   | 4  | Crowell, Stephen C. (Skagway), 1936   |
|   | 5  | Cubbage, Boyd G. (Anchorage), 1939-1943   |
|   | 6  | Dakin, Florence (Barrow), 1920-1923   |
|   | 7  | Diven, Robert J. (Nenana), 1919-1921  |
|   | 8  | Diven, Robert J. (Wrangell), 1921-1923, 1930  |
|   | 9  | Dodge, John K. (Skagway), 1946  |
|   | 10 | Eide, Arthur (Barrow), 1920-1921  |
|   | 11 | Falconer, F.R. (Ketchikan), 1921-1924   |
|   | 12 | Fitzgerald, J. Roscoe (Kake), 1921-1922   |
|   | 13 | Fredsell, Harold F. (Skagway), 1941, 1944-1946  |
|   | 14 | Freeman, Edward Dewitt (Ketchikan), 1944-1946   |
|   | 15 | French, Arthur (Savoonga), 1960   |
|   | 16 | Findley, Edna (Sitka), 1912   |
|   | 17 | Gall, Alwin E. ((Hydaburg), 1945-1946   |
|   | 18 | Gould, J.A. (Chairman of Synod of Washington Home Mission Committee<br>re Barrow) and Gould, Gene C., 1920-1924 |



## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

### Box    Folder    Description

2	19	Green, Alice (Savoonga), 1945
	20	1946, 1951, 1956-1958
	21	Greist, Henry W. (Wales and Barrow), 1914-1919
	22	Jan.-June 1920
	23	July-Dec. 1920
	24	1921-1922
	25	1931-1935
	26	1936-1938
	27	Hall, James W. (Ketchikan), 1941-1942
	28	1943-1944
	29	Ipalook, Percy (Barrow and Wales), 1934-1935
	30	(Wainwright), 1939-1946
	31	Johnson, Samuel G. (Hoonah and Angoon), 1938-1945
	32	Judd, Ben (Wrangel), 1942-1943
	33	Kaiper, Daniel (Klawock), 1938-1940
	34	Klerekoper, Frederick (Skagway), 1935-1936
	35	Klerekoper, Frederick (Barrow), 1938-1940
	36	1941-1942
	37	1943-1945, 1947
	38	Knudsen, Edwin E. (Skagway and Haines), 1938-1942, 1944
	39	Komedal, Evelyn G. (Gambell), 1938-1940
	40	Lee, Samuel (Barrow), 1945-1946
	41	McAdoo, William A. (Anchorage and Cordova), 1936
	42	(Anchorage), 1938-1939, 1946
	43	Marple, Wallace Sutton (Anchorage), 1920-1923
	44	Marsden, Edward (Metlakatla), re Presbyterian, Episcopal, Methodist Relations, 1921-1924, 1931
	45	Martin, Anna (Savoonga and Gambell), 1941-1945
	46	Morgan, Emily (Barrow), 1928
	47	Moyer, Paul A. (Hydaburg), 1957-1960
	48	Newhall, A.W. (Barrow), 1927-1928
	49	Nickerson, Roscoe S. (Cordova), 1920-1923
	50	Parker, Elmer E. (Gambell), 1944-1946, 1955-1961
	51	Pederson, Russell F. (Wrangell), 1935, June-Sept. 1938
	52	Oct.-Dec. 1938
	53	January-April 1939
	54	May-August 1939
	55	September-December 1939
	56	January-June 1940
	57	July 1940-April 1941
3	1	Peterson, Ralph S. (Cordova), 1938-1939
	2	Prouty, Paul H. (Sitka and Palmer), 1941-1942

### Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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3	3	Prouty, Paul H. (General Missionary; "The Princeton-Hall"), 1944-June 1945
	4	July-December 1945
	5	1946
	6	Randall, Orso Wilber (Palmer), 1941-1944
	7	Scherer, Fred G. (Fairbanks), 1920-1922
	8	Stauffer, Emma (Wales), 1935-1938
	9	1939-1940
	10	1941
	11	1942-1943
	12	Story, W.E. (Hydaburg), 1920-1922
	13	Swanson, Mayreld, Mrs. (Yukon Presbytery, Director of Christian Education), 1956-1958
	14	1959-1960
	15	Swanson, Verne (Petersburg and Hydaburg), 1938-1943
	16	Swogger, Alfred D. (Metlakatla), 1935-1940
	17	1941-1943
	18	Tamaree, Tillie P. (Petersburg), 1930
	18a	Vernon, J.F. (Fairbanks and Nenana), 1924
	19	Waggoner, David (Juneau), 1935-1940
	20	Webster, Jackson L. (Sitka), 1930, 1937-1938
	21	1939-1940
	22	Wheeler, Ralph K. (Haines), 1938
	23	Whiteside, Paul E. (Klawock), 1939
	24	1940, n.d.
	25	1941, n.d.
	26	Winterberger, E.L. (Skagway), 1920-1921
	27	Yaw, Leslie (Superintendent, Sheldon Jackson School), 1941-1942
	28	1942-1943
	29	Youel, John E. (Fairbanks), 1934-1936
	30	1938-1939
	31	1940
	32	1941

#### S. Hall Young Correspondence, 1897-1898, 1916-1923

33	Young, S. Hall (Klondike Region), 1897-1898
34	1916-April 1917
35	May-August 1917
36	September-December 1917
37	Young, S. Hall, Correspondence with James L. McBride, Anchorage, 1917
38	Young, S. Hall, Correspondence with Archdeacon Stuck, 1917, 1920



## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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3	39	Young, S. Hall, Political Correspondence, 1916-1917
	40	1921
	41	Young, S. Hall, Correspondence (Alaska Office, NY), 1919-1921
	42	Young, S. Hall, Reports, Clippings, 1920-1921, n.d.
	43	Young, S. Hall. Correspondence re Trip to Alaska, 1920-1921
	44	Young, S. Hall, Correspondence re Appointment as General Missionary, October 1921-January 1922
	45	Young, S. Hall (General Missionary), 1921
	46	January-March 1922
	47	April 1922-1923
	48	Various Missionaries, 1919-1921
	49	J. Earl Jackman, et.al., Missionary Correspondence, 1941, 1956-1959

### SUBSERIES II: FIELD CORRESPONDENCE, MISSIONS, 1890-1960

3	50	Anchorage, 1928, 1936
	51	Barrow, 1893, 1900, 1901, 1905 (OVERSIZE BOX)
	52	Barrow, 1918-1921
	53	Barrow (Presbyterian Hospital), 1920-1923
	54	Barrow, 1919-1922
4	1	Barrow, 1920-1923
	2	Barrow (Henry. W. Greist, M.D.), 1921-1922
	3	Barrow (Henry W. Greist, M.D.), 1921-1923
	4	Barrow, 1922
	5	Barrow, 1922
	6	Barrow, 1923
	7	Barrow (Henry W. Greist and Florence Dakin), 1923
	8	Barrow, 1925-1928, 1934-1936
	9	Barrow, 1952-1958
	10	Craig, 1944-1946
	11	Fairbanks, 1941-1946
	12	Gambell and Nenana, 1940, 1957
	13	Gambell and Savoonga, 1942-1949, 1957-1958
	14	Hoonah and Hyda, 1893-1900. n.d. (OVERSIZE BOX)
	15	Juneau, 1894, 1897, n.d. (OVERSIZE BOX)
	16	Kake, 1944, 1960
	17	Kasaan, 1945-1958
	18	Klukwan, 1943-1946
	19	Kotzebue, 1950
4	20	Metlakatla, (William Duncan and Edward Marsden), 1909- 1920

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Box	Folder	Description
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|----|--|---|
|    |  | (OVERSIZE BOX)  |
| 21 |  | Metlakatla, 1920-1921 (OVERSIZE BOX)  |
| 22 |  | Metlakatla, (Dispute with Duncan Church), 1945-1960   |
| 23 |  | Metlakatla, 1921, 1937-1940   |
| 24 |  | Metlakatla, 1941-1946   |
| 25 |  | Palmer, 1939, 1942-1949   |
| 26 |  | Palmer and Valley Presbyterian Hospital, 1955-1960  |
| 27 |  | Savoonga (New Building), 1942-1958  |
| 28 |  | Sheldon Jackson School, Students, 1940-1941   |
| 29 |  | Sitka, Reports, Woman's Executive Committee; Sheldon Jackson; Sitka Training School, 1890-1909 (OVERSIZE BOX) |
| 30 |  | Sitka, 1920-1921  |
| 31 |  | Sitka, 1940-1960  |
| 32 |  | Sitka (All Alaska Conference), 1956-1957  |
| 33 |  | Sitka (First Presbyterian Church), 1942-1958  |
| 34 |  | Sitka, Saxman, Klawok, Knik, Hydah, 1896-1913, 1931 (OVERSIZE BOX)  |
| 35 |  | Wales, 1919-1923  |
| 36 |  | Wales, Ketchikan, Cordova, 1931-1932  |
| 37 |  | Wales, 1944-1956  |
| 38 |  | Whittier, 1945-1946   |

### **SERIES II: FIELD REPORTS, 1943-1961**

#### **SUBSERIES I: MONTHLY REPORTS, 1943-1944, 1958-1961**

##### **Alaska Presbytery, 1944, 1958-1961**

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 4 | 39 | Angoon, Craig-Klawock, Hydaburg, Juneau-Douglas, Kake, Ketchikan, Metlakatla, Noonah, Petersburg, Wrangell, Sunday School Missions, 1944 |
|   | 40 | Angoon, Craig, Haines, 1958  |
|   | 41 | Juneau-Douglas, 1958   |
|   | 42 | Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Ketchikan, Klukwan, 1958   |
|   | 43 | Metlakatla, Petersburg, 1958   |
|   | 44 | Sitka and Mt. Edgecombe, Skagway, Sheldon Jackson Junior College, 1958   |
|   | 45 | Wrangell, Yakutat, 1958  |
|   | 46 | Auke Bay, Angoon, Craig-Klawock, Haines, 1959  |
|   | 47 | Hoonah, Hydaburg, Juneau, Kake, Ketchikan, 1959  |
|   | 48 | Juneau, 1959   |
|   | 49 | Klukwan, Metlakatla, Petersburg, Sitka, 1959   |
|   | 50 | Skagway, Wrangell, Yakutat, 1959   |
| 4 | 51 | Angoon, Auke Bay, Craig-Klawock, Haines, 1960  |



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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
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- |  |    |   |
|--|----|---|
|  | 52 | Hoonah, Hydaburg, Juneau, 1960  |
|  | 53 | Kake, Ketchikan, Klukwan, Metlakatla, Petersburg, 1960                            |
|  | 54 | Sitka-Mt. Edgecombe, Skagway, Wrangell, Yakutat, 1960                             |
|  | 55 | Angoon, Craig, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Juneau, Kake, Spenard, Metlakatla, Yakutat, 1961 |

### **Yukon Presbytery, 1943-1944, 1958-1961**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 4 | 56 | Barter Island, Cordova, Gambell-Savoonga, Palmer, Wales, 1943                 |
|   | 57 | Barter Island, Cordova, Palmer, Savoonga, Wales, Sunday School Missions, 1944 |
|   | 58 | Barrow, 1958  |
|   | 59 | Fairbanks, 1958   |
|   | 60 | Gambell, Palmer, Savoonga, Spenard, Wainwright, 1958                          |
| 5 | 1  | Barrow, Fairbanks, Anchorage, College, 1959                                   |
|   | 2  | Fairbanks (Big Delta Military Service Pastorate), 1959                        |
|   | 3  | Fairbanks (Hospitality House), 1959   |
|   | 4  | Spenard, Utkeagvik, Wainwright, 1959  |
|   | 5  | Fairbanks, Gambell-Savoonga, Spenard, Wainwright, 1960                        |
|   | 6  | Anchorage-Nunaka Valley, Barrow, College, 1960                                |
|   | 7  | Anchorage, Barrow, Fairbanks, 1961  |

### **Sunday School Missions and Mobile Ministries**

#### **Alaska Presbytery, 1958-1961**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 5 | 8  | Yakutat, Wasilla, 1958-1959                       |
|   | 9  | "The Princeton-Hall," 1960                        |
|   | 10 | "The Anna Jackman" and "The Princeton-Hall," 1961 |

#### **Yukon Presbytery, 1958-1961**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 5 | 11 | Alaska Railroad, Wasilla, and Various Sunday Schools, 1958-1959 |
|   | 12 | Alaska Railroad, 1959   |
|   | 13 | Alaska Railroad and Various Sunday Schools, 1960                |
|   | 14 | Wasilla and Big Delta, 1960                                     |
|   | 15 | Wasilla and Delta Junction, 1961                                |

### **SUBSERIES II: ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORTS, 1957-1961**

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 5 | 16 | Headquarters, 1957   |
| 5 | 17 | Alaska Highway, Anchorage, Auke Bay, Barrow, Craig-Klawock-Edna Bay, |

## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

### Box    Folder    Description

- 1957
- 18    Gambell, Haines, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Palmer, Petersburg, 1957
- 19    "The Princeton-Hall", Savoonga, Spenard, Wasilla, 1957
- 20    Headquarters, 1958
- 21    Alaska Highway Parish, Anchorage, Auke Bay, Craig, Barrow, College, Fairbanks, Gambell, Haines, 1958
- 22    Hoonah, Klawock, Palmer, Petersburg, Railbelt Church, Spenard, Wainwright, Wrangell, 1958
- 23    "The Anna Jackman" and "The Princeton-Hall" Motorships, 1958
- 24    Mayreld Swanson, Director of Christian Education, 1958
- 25    Alaska Highway Parish, Anchorage, Angoon, Auke Bay, Barrow, Big Delta, College, Craig-Klawock, Fairbanks, Gambell, 1959
- 26    Haines, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Ketchikan, Metlakatla, Palmer, Petersburg, Railbelt Church, Sitka, Mt. Edgecombe, Spenard, Sunday School Missions, Wainwright, Wasilla, Wrangell, Yakutat (?), 1959
- 27    "The Anna Jackman" Motorship; Mayreld Swanson, Director of Christian Education, 1959
- 28    Anchorage, Auke Bay, Barrow, Kake, Spenard, Wasilla, "The Princeton-Hall", Mayreld Swanson, Director of Christian Education, 1960
- 28a    Lists of Officers in Alaska Churches, 1960-1961

### **SUBSERIES III: ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTS, 1959-1960**

- 5    29    Alaska Presbytery, 1959
- 30    Alaska Presbytery, 1960
- 31    Yukon Presbytery, 1959
- 32    Yukon Presbytery, 1960

### **SERIES III: APPLICATIONS FOR MISSIONARY APPOINTMENT, 1918-1948**

- 5    33    1918-1920
- 34    1920
- 35    1939-1943
- 36    1944-1948, A-C
- 37    1944-1948, D-H
- 38    1944-1948, I-L
- 39    1943-1947, M-R
- 40    1943-1947, S-W



## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box   Folder   Description

### **SERIES IV: APPLICATIONS FOR NATIONAL MISSIONS AID, 1936-1959**

5	41	1936-1939
	42	1940-1960
	43	1945-1959

### **SERIES V: SUBJECT FILES, ca. 1890-1960, n.d.**

5	44	Alaska Christian Mission (E. Stanley Jones, Evangelist, Federal Council of Churches), September 1945
	45	Alaska Highway (Bert Bingle, Chaplain), 1942, 1946, n.d.
	46	Alaska Methodist University, 1949-1959
	47	Alaska Ministry, Qualifications, Conditions and Policy re, 1954, 1956, n.d.
	48	Alaska Native Brotherhood, 1939, 1941, 1956, 1958

### **Alaska Presbytery**

5	49	Minutes, 1947-1956
	50	Reports, 1920, 1922
	51	Home Missions Committee, Reports, 1914-1916
	52	National Missions Committee, Reports, 1936
	53	Alaska and Yukon Presbyteries: Membership, Property, Giving and Community Statistics, 1934-1947, n.d.
	54	Alaska Steamship Company Correspondence, 1921
	55	Alaska Study Committee, BNM, Minutes, Reports, Job Description, 1960
	56	Alaska Study Committee, BNM, Reports, 1953, 1960
	57	Army and Civilian Chapel, Skagway, 1944
	58	Church Cooperation (Methodist and Presbyterian) in Ketchikan, 1944
6	1	Board of Home Missions: Reports; Power of Attorney for Alaska, 1906, 1914-1916 (OVERSIZE BOX)
	2	DEW Line Ministry Correspondence, 1956-1961
	3	Eskimo Primer by Roy Ahmaogak, 1947-1948
	4	Evangelistic Mission (4th) to Alaska: Reports of the Missioners, 1958
	5	Evangelistic Mission (4th) to Alaska: Statistical Reports from Churches, 1958
	6	"Fulfilling Our Mission," by J. Earl Jackman: Article for <u>Concern</u> , 1957
	7	Furlough Regulations for Alaska Missionaries, Revised, BNM, 1933

### **Home Missions Council (Ecumenical)**

## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
-----	--------	-------------

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 6 | 8  | Home Missions Council, Central Committee on Alaska (The Associated Evangelical Churches of Alaska), 1919-1921 |
|   | 9  | Home Missions Council, Alaska Committee, 1930-1959  |
|   | 10 | Hospitality House, Fairbanks, 1955-1957   |
|   | 11 | 1957-1960   |

### Indians (Native Americans)

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 6 | 12 | President Taft: Executive Order Creating Hydaburg Indian Reservation, 1912 (OVERSIZE BOX)                                |
|   | 13 | Indians: Alaska Native and Labor Unions (CIO), 1938  |
|   | 14 | "Indians of Southeastern Alaska," by Viola E. Garfield; Statistics of Indian Churches in Alaska Presbytery, 1963         |
|   | 15 | Native American Rights Legislation, 1943-1947  |
|   | 16 | Office of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior/Board of National Missions Correspondence, 1938-1959                |
|   | 17 | Interchurch Relations: Salvation Army; Seventh Day Adventists, 1938-1947, 1956   |
|   | 18 | Interdenominational Conference on Work in Alaska, Comity Committee: Report, 1956   |
|   | 19 | Klawock: Alaska Medical Mission (Robert R. Starr, M.D.), 1955-1956   |
|   | 20 | Military and Defense Impact (World War II): Reports from Churches, 1942  |
|   | 21 | President Harding's Visit to Metlakatla and the Controversy with the Duncan Church (Edward Marsden), 1923 (OVERSIZE BOX) |
|   | 22 | The North Arctic Slope Work of Alaska, Report, ca. 1960 (OVERSIZE BOX)   |
|   | 23 | Petersburg General Hospital, Dedication Program, 1955  |

### Reindeer Controversy, 1924-1947

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 6 | 24 | Correspondence and Reports (F. W. Sawyer), 1930   |
|   | 25 | 1932-1933   |
|   | 26 | 1933-1934   |
|   | 27 | 1935-1936   |
|   | 28 | Correspondence, Reports, Reprint, 1939, 1944-1947 |
|   | 29 | Exhibits (Editorial, Reports), ca. 1924-1932      |

### Sheldon Jackson School/Junior College

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 6 | 30 | Clippings and Newsletter, 1913, 1949, 1957, 1965                |
|   | 31 | Social Dancing Controversy, 1956-1957                           |
|   | 32 | Reports and Summer School Leaflet, 1929, 1932, 1945, 1958, n.d. |
| 6 | 33 | Special Committee on Children's Work in Alaska, BNM,            |



## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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Reports re Closing of Haines House, 1960

### Surveys and Reports on Work in Alaska

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 6 | 34 | Survey of Craig and Klawock (Visit of James Hall), Report, 1942  |
|   | 35 | Survey of Nome, National Missions Committee, Presbytery of Yukon, Report, 1946   |
|   | 36 | Survey of Alaskan Communities, BNM, Questionnaires, 1946   |
|   | 37 | Survey of Yakutat (Visits of C.E. Klaver and R.R. Armstrong), Reports, 1954  |
|   | 38 | Survey of Gambell Church, BNM, Questionnaire, 1954   |
|   | 39 | "A Strategy Survey of Presbyterianism in Alaska,"<br>Everett L. Perry, Preliminary Report, 1958                            |
|   | 40 | Work of Presbyterians and Other Denominations in<br>Alaska, 1930, 1940, n.d.   |
|   | 41 | "Alaska Field," Report: History, Status, Needs, ca. 1953 (OVERSIZE BOX)  |
|   | 42 | Report of Trip to Alaska, 1958   |
|   | 43 | United Protestant Church, Palmer, Correspondence, 1936-1939  |
|   | 44 | United Christian Council of Alaska, Correspondence,<br>Minutes, Incorporation, Methodist/Presbyterian Relations, 1937-1941 |

### SERIES VI: PRESBYTERIAN MISSION MOTOR VESSELS, 1923-1983

#### SUBSERIES I: "THE PRINCETON" AND "THE A.L. LINDSLEY", 1923-1948

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 6 | 45 | Specifications for Proposed Missionary Launch "Princeton," 1924 or 1926<br>(OVERSIZE BOX)            |
|   | 46 | "History of the Presbyterian Fleet," and a Leaflet, 1940, [1948]                                     |
|   | 47 | Missionary Launch "Princeton," Correspondence,<br>Dedication Service, Rules for Operation, 1924-1926 |
|   | 48 | Blueprints for Mission Boat "Princeton", n.d.  |
|   | 49 | Mission Boat "A. L. Lindsley," Correspondence and Bill<br>of Sale, 1922-1923                         |

#### SUBSERIES II: "THE PRINCETON-HALL", 1941-1960

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 6 | 50 | Mission Boat "The Princeton-Hall" Dedication and<br>Launching: Correspondence and Order of Service, 1941 |
|   | 51 | "The Princeton-Hall," Correspondence with Harold Lee,<br>Architect; Blueprint, 1940-1942                 |
|   | 52 | World War II Service of "The Princeton-Hall," 1942, 1944   |
|   | 53 | "The Princeton-Hall," Correspondence and Reports, 1941-1947  |
| 6 | 54 | "The Princeton-Hall," Correspondence and Reports, 1949-1960, n.d.  |

## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 55 |  | "The Princeton-Hall," Clippings and Pamphlet, 1942-1956                         |
| 56 |  | Program of Ministry for Mission Motorships, with a Map, Alaska Presbytery, 1960 |

### **SUBSERIES III: "THE ANNA JACKMAN," 1956-1983, n.d.**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 6 | 57 | Profile and Arrangement of Proposed Mission Ship, 1956                            |
|   | 58 | Construction Specifications, 1957 (OVERSIZE BOX)                                  |
|   | 59 | Dedicatory Service, 1958  |
|   | 60 | Official Permits and Papers, Transfer from Florida to Alaska, 1958 (OVERSIZE BOX) |
|   | 61 | BNM Release; Clippings, 1958  |
|   | 62 | Instructions to Passengers, n.d.  |
|   | 63 | Correspondence re Inspection and Maintenance, 1958                                |

### **SERIES VII: HISTORICAL SKETCHES, ca. 1890-1952, n.d.**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 7 | 1  | Dimmitt, Luther M., "History of Presbyterian Missions in Alaska," [1948}                  |
|   | 2  | Dimmitt, Luther M., "Selected Histories, Presbyterian Missions in Alaska," [1952]         |
|   | 3  | Dimmitt, Luther M., Lists of Executives and Missionaries, [1952]                          |
|   | 4  | Lists of Missionaries (by Mission and Date); Mission Worker Statistics (by Year), [1952]  |
|   | 5  | Chronologies, ca. 1924, n.d.  |
|   | 6  | "History of Work in Alaska under The Board of National Missions...", n.d.                 |
|   | 7  | "History of Presbyterian Missions in Alaska," Draft for <u>Encyclopedia Artica</u> , 1948 |
|   | 8  | "Our Alaska Missions," 1937   |
|   | 9  | Historical Sketches, Notes, Extracts, 1917, 1943, n.d.                                    |
|   | 10 | Historical Sketches of Alaska and Yukon Presbyteries, 1947, n.d.                          |
|   | 11 | Yukon Presbytery, Fiftieth Anniversary History and Radio Script, 1949                     |
|   | 12 | History of Alaska Highway Parish, 1957  |
|   | 13 | Historical Sketch of Gambell, ca. 1945  |
|   | 14 | History of Juneau Mission and the Work of the Willards, 1892                              |
|   | 15 | Historical Sketches of Ketchikan and Saxman, 1921, n.d.                                   |
|   | 16 | Ann Bannan, "History of Mission Work on St. Lawrence Island," ca. 1949                    |
|   | 17 | Sitka Mission Hospital, Annual Reports, 1896, 1897  |
|   | 18 | Historical Sketch of United Protestant Movement in Matanuska Valley (Palmer Church), 1951 |
| 7 | 19 | History of Ft. Wrangell, ca. 1890   |



## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 20 |  | "Journal of a Trip to Alaska," 1892-1893 (author unknown)                                     |
| 21 |  | Sheldon Jackson, "A Statement...concerning the Difficulties at Sitka...1885," 1886 (Pamphlet) |
| 22 |  | Missionary Biographies (Sheldon Jackson; Amanda McFarland; S. Hall Young), n.d.               |

### **SERIES VIII: PROPERTY RECORDS, 1894-1960**

#### **SUBSERIES I: CORRESPONDENCE, 1894-1960 (Harvey C. Olin and Varian Banks, BHM Treasurers)**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 7 | 23 | Correspondence re Land Patents (Olin, Senators Depew and Platt, Sheldon Jackson), 1901-1905 |
|   | 24 | 1909-1910   |
|   | 25 | 1911  |
|   | 26 | 1912  |
|   | 27 | Property Correspondence (Olin), 1898, 1903-1905   |
|   | 28 | Property Correspondence (Banks), 1915-1923  |
|   | 29 | Presbyterian Mission and Hospital of Point Barrow, 1922-1924                                |
|   | 30 | 1922, 1937  |
|   | 31 | Big Delta, 1954-1958  |
|   | 32 | Cooper River Valley (Request for a Mission School), 1929-1930                               |
|   | 33 | Craig, Special Use Permit, United States Forest Service, 1916                               |
|   | 34 | Hoonah and Haines (incl. Sheldon Jackson Letter), 1899-1921                                 |
|   | 35 | Hoonah (Banks), 1922-1928   |
|   | 36 | Hoonah (Construction of Church and Manse), 1944   |
|   | 37 | 1945  |
|   | 38 | 1946  |
|   | 39 | Hydaburg, 1915-1916   |
|   | 40 | 1949-1960   |

### **Juneau**

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 7 | 41 | Property Correspondence (Harvey C. Olin), 1894-1904                            |
|   | 42 | 1896-1905  |
|   | 43 | 1905   |
|   | 44 | 1906-1907  |
|   | 45 | 1908-1911  |
| 8 | 1  | Construction of a New Native Church (S. Hall Young Memorial Church), 1936-1940 |
|   | 2  | Map, Specification, 1934, 1936   |
| 8 | 3  | Correspondence, 1937   |

## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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	4	Correspondence, 1938-1940
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	5	Kake, Correspondence, 1912-1913
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	6	Ketchikan, 1918-1923
--	---	----------------------

	7	1943-1955
--	---	-----------

	8	1956, 1958
--	---	------------

	9	Kasaan, 1912, 1923, 1929
--	---	--------------------------

	10	Klawock, 1919
--	----	---------------

	11	Knik, 1901, 1913-1916
--	----	-----------------------

	12	Metlakatla, 1919-1921
--	----	-----------------------

	13	Nenana, 1917, 1920
--	----	--------------------

	14	Petersburg, 1913-1914
--	----	-----------------------

	15	1915-1918
--	----	-----------

	16	Petersburg Church, 1944-1960
--	----	------------------------------

	17	St. Lawrence Island, 1921
--	----	---------------------------

	18	Saxman Mission, 1908-1909, 1918
--	----	---------------------------------

### Sitka

8	19	Property Correspondence, 1899-1913
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	20	1914-1921
--	----	-----------

	21	1917-1924
--	----	-----------

	22	1939-1941
--	----	-----------

	23	Thane Mission, 1916
--	----	---------------------

	24	Wales, 1952
--	----	-------------

	25	Wrangell (Banks), 1918-1923, 1925
--	----	-----------------------------------

	26	Agreements, Board of Home Missions and Board of Church Erection, 1911-1913 (OVERSIZE BOX)
--	----	--

	27	Memoranda re Property Laws Passed by the Alaska Legislature, 1913 (OVERSIZE BOX)
--	----	---

### SUBSERIES II: BLUEPRINTS, SURVEYS, PLOT PLANS, 1898-1950

8	28	Barrow, Proposed Land Plat Changes, ca. 1930
---	----	--

	29	Hoonah, Township Plat Plan, 1919
--	----	----------------------------------

	30	Hoonah, Sketches for Plan for Proposed Manse and Mission Plat, n.d. (1923?)
--	----	---

	31	Hoonah, Architectural Plans for Church, 1945
--	----	--

	32	Juneau, Plat Map (Marked with Location of Members' Homes), 1934
--	----	---

	33	Juneau, Blueprints of Memorial (First) Church, 1938
--	----	---

	34	Kake, Pencil Plan of Manse (George F. Beck), n.d.
--	----	---

	35	Ketchikan, Pencil Plan for Manse, 1921
--	----	--

	36	Knik, Sketch of the Native Building, ca. 1914
--	----	---

8	37	Petersburg, Architectural Plans for the Church, 1950
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## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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- |  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
|  | 38 | Saxman, Maps of Proposed Totem Pole Project and Subdivision Extension and Letters re Chapel Blueprints, 1939, 1940, 1942 |
|  | 39 | Sitka, Sheldon Jackson School, Survey of Manse Plot and Sketch Map of Sitka, 1919, n.d.                                  |
|  | 40 | Sitka Presbyterian Church, Pencil Plans and Blueprints, 1938, 1939, n.d.   |
|  | 41 | Survey of Domiciliary Claim (Lt. F.M. Symonds, USN), Sitka, 1874   |

### **SUBSERIES III: SALE AND LEASING OF PROPERTY, 1909-1957, n.d.**

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 8 | 42 | Extract, BHM Minutes re Sale of Property in Juneau, 1909   |
|   | 43 | Consents of BHM to be sued and to Condemnation of Lots for US Post Office, Juneau, 1912 (OVERSIZE BOX)     |
|   | 44 | Report Recommending Granting of Deeds to Native Alaskans, 1922   |
|   | 45 | Petitions of Thlinket Indians and the Town of Wrangell to BHM for Property Totem Park, n.d. (OVERSIZE BOX) |

### **Leases and Deeds**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 8 | 46 | Deeds (Juneau, Katalla, Petersburg, Ruby), 1910-1921, 1930, 1937 (OVERSIZE BOX)             |
|   | 47 | Leases (Anchorage, Hospitality House at Fairbanks, Juneau), 1914, 1917, 1957 (OVERSIZE BOX) |

### **SERIES IX: NEWSLETTERS AND PAMPHLETS, 1882-1960, n.d.**

#### **SUBSERIES I: NEWSLETTERS, 1892-1960**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 8 | 48 | "Alaska Newsletter", 1943-1950  |
|   | 49 | "Alaska Newsletter", 1951-1955  |
|   | 50 | 1956-1960   |
|   | 51 | "Alaska Presbyterian," 1945-1949 (incomplete series) (OVERSIZE BOX)                       |
|   | 52 | "Angoon Scrapbook", 1954 (incomplete series)  |
|   | 53 | "Semi-Annual News Service," (BNM), Barrow, 1935-1936                                      |
|   | 54 | "Arctic Cubs", by Students of the Indian School, Pt. Barrow, 1937                         |
|   | 55 | "The Arctic Herald", Barrow, 1959 (incomplete series)                                     |
|   | 56 | "Junior Barrow Bulletin", 1952, 1953  |
|   | 57 | "Barrow at the Top of the World for Christ," 1951-1958 (incomplete series) (OVERSIZE BOX) |
|   | 58 | "Barrow Weekly News," 1954 (OVERSIZE BOX)   |
|   | 59 | "Bulletin for Indian and Alaskan Missionaries"; Circular Letters, 1932-1936               |
| 8 | 60 | 1937-1942   |

## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box	Folder	Description
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- |  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
|  | 61 | "Campus Chatter", Sheldon Jackson Junior College, 1959   |
|  | 62 | "The Eskimo", Newsletter/Magazine (C.L. Andrews, editor), 1940-1947  |
|  | 63 | "News from Indian Fields" and "News from Indian and Alaskan Fields", 1932-1933                                     |
|  | 64 | "News from Indian and Alaskan Fields", 1934-1935   |
|  | 65 | 1936-1937  |
|  | 66 | "Notes from Indian and Alaskan Missionaries", 1938-1939  |
|  | 67 | "The North Star", Sitka, 1892, 1898  |
|  | 68 | "The Northern Cross", Nenana and Barrow, 1928, 1936  |
|  | 69 | "The Snookum News", Ketchikan, 1958 (incomplete series)  |
|  | 70 | "PAY", Presbyteries of Alaska and Yukon, 1950-1959   |
|  | 71 | "The Totem", Hydaburg, 1949 (incomplete series)  |
|  | 72 | "The Vestorian," Sheldon Jackson School, 1914-1959 (not complete; includes Annual Catalog for 1924) (OVERSIZE BOX) |

### SUBSERIES II: PAMPHLETS, LEAFLETS, CLIPPINGS, 1882-1972

#### Woman's Executive Committee

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 8 | 73 | Circular Letter re Sitka Memorial Hospital for the Christian Endeavor of California, 1895 |
|   | 74 | Leaflets and Pamphlets, [1882], 1894, 1895, 1901  |

#### Woman's Board of Home Missions

- |  |    |   |
|--|----|---|
|  | 75 | Pamphlets, 1898-1901, 1918?, n.d.                                 |
|  | 76 | Pamphlets re Sitka Training School, 1901-1909                     |
|  | 77 | Pamphlets and Leaflets, re Sheldon Jackson School 1912-1918, n.d. |

#### Board of Home Missions/Board of National Missions

- |   |     |   |
|---|-----|---|
| 8 | 78  | Board of National Missions Pamphlets and Leaflets re Sheldon Jackson School and the Alaska Work, 1916-1925, 1946-1960, n.d. |
|   | 79  | Barrow, Clippings, Leaflets, Pamphlet, 1922-1946  |
|   | 80  | The Presbyterian Church of Metlakatla, n.d.   |
|   | 81  | United Protestant Church in the Matanuska Valley, Palmer, n.d.  |
|   | 82  | St. Lawrence Island, Leaflets and Clippings, 1902, 1910, 1940-1951  |
|   | 82a | Miscellaneous Pamphlets, 1900-1928, n.d.  |
|   | 82b | Miscellaneous Clippings and Reprints, 1942-1959   |
|   | 83  | Maps of the Work in Alaska, 1925-1972   |

### SERIES X: HAINES MISSION/HAINES HOUSE RECORDS, 1885(?)-1967



## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

Box   Folder   Description

### **SUBSERIES I: PROPERTY CORRESPONDENCE (Harvey C. Olin and Varian Banks, BHM Treasurers), 1905-1962, 1967**

8	84	Property Correspondence, 1905-1912
	85	Correspondence with the Alaska Midland Railway Company, 1910-1913
	86	Correspondence re the Native Model Village Project, 1904
	87	Correspondence re the Mission Hospital, 1914
	88	Correspondence re the Mission Hospital and the Mission Farm, 1915-1916
	89	Property Correspondence, 1916-1921
	90	1921-1922

### **Edna R. Voss, Division of Schools and Hospitals**

	91	Haines House Property Correspondence, 1918-1924
	92	1924-1929
	93	1930-1943
	94	1943
9	1	1944
	2	1945
	3	1946
	4	1947
	5	1947

### **Katherine E. Gladfelter, Division of Schools and Hospitals**

6	Haines House Property Correspondence, 1948
7	1948
8	1949
9	1949
10	1948-1951
11	1952-1953
12	1952-1955
13	(Stoney Cottage), 1952-1960
14	1939-1960
15	Cottage Settlements Correspondence, 1947-1948
16	1949-1957
17	(Eli Philips Lease), 1952, 1955- 1957

### **Sale of Property**

### Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
------------	---------------	--------------------

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 9 | 18 | Haines House Property Correspondence, 1951-1959 |
|   | 19 | 1955-1960                                       |
|   | 20 | Haines House Property Correspondence, 1958-1960 |
|   | 21 | (Garbage Dump), 1952-1960                       |

#### **Small Boat Harbor**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 9 | 22 | Small Boat Harbor Correspondence, 1955                                  |
|   | 23 | 1956  |
|   | 24 | 1953-1954   |
|   | 25 | August-November 1955  |
|   | 26 | March-July 1955   |
|   | 27 | Haines House Property Correspondence (Haines Presbyterian Church), 1960 |
|   | 28 | Haines House Property Correspondence, 1954-1956                         |
|   | 29 | 1957  |
|   | 30 | 1958  |

#### **The Closing of Haines House**

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 9 | 31 | Correspondence, Minutes, Reports, 1958-1960              |
|   | 32 | Correspondence and Reports, 1960                         |
|   | 33 | 1960-1962  |
|   | 34 | Correspondence, Inquiry re Closing of Haines House, 1967 |

#### **SUBSERIES II: SURVEYS (MAPS), 1896-1948, n.d.**

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 9 | 35 | Board of Home Missions, (S. Hall Young), Application to Surveyor General for Survey and Patent for Mission Ground, 1903 (OVERSIZE BOX) |
|   | 36 | Presbyterian Mission Reserve Surveys, 1913, 1915, 1917; Report, 1917 (OVERSIZE BOX)  |
|   | 37 | Presbyterian Mission Reserve Surveys, 1896, 1913   |
|   | 38 | Presbyterian Mission Reserve Surveys, 1945, 1948   |
|   | 39 | Survey of Township #3 (incl. Presbyterian Mission Reserve), 1922   |
|   | 40 | Presbytery of Alaska Camp Site (Rainbow Glacier Conference Grounds), Survey 1948   |
|   | 41 | North Line Survey showing the Wagon Road, n.d.   |

#### **SUBSERIES III: LEGAL RECORDS (CONTRACTS AND LEASES),**



## **Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3**

### Box    Folder    Description

#### **1905-1953**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 9 | 42 | BNM, Rules and Regulations for Sale of Board Board Property to Native Alaskans, 1933        |
|   | 43 | Native Alaskan Leases, 1905-1921 (OVERSIZE BOX)   |
|   | 44 | 1940-1945 (OVERSIZE BOX)  |
|   | 45 | BNM, Report of the Finance Committee re Transfer of Mission Land to the US Government, 1940 |
|   | 46 | War Department Leases, 1942; Releases, 1945 (OVERSIZE BOX)                                  |
|   | 47 | Gravel Pit Leases, 1952, 1953 (OVERSIZE BOX)  |
|   | 48 | Contracts, BNM and the Town of Haines, 1924, 1940, 1955 (OVERSIZE BOX)                      |

#### **SUBSERIES IV: PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY, 1885?-1959, n.d.**

##### **Home Letters**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 9 | 49 | Home Letters (Mrs. Willard and Mrs. Warne), 1885?, 1891           |
|   | 50 | Home Letters, Copy, Reports, 1935, 1941-1943, n.d. (OVERSIZE BOX) |
|   | 51 | Home Letter (L. Blanche Horner), 1938                             |

##### **Copy and Correspondence**

- |  |    |                                       |
|--|----|---------------------------------------|
|  | 52 | Copy, 1945-1946, n.d.                 |
|  | 53 | Copy, 1944-1957, n.d.                 |
|  | 54 | Correspondence, 1933, 1948-1958, n.d. |

##### **Newsletters**

- |  |    |   |
|--|----|---|
|  | 55 | "First Class Mail" and "Missionary Profile" (W.D. Wiley), 1955 (OVERSIZE BOX) |
|  | 56 | "Semi-Annual News Service/News Letter," 1939-1841, 1945, 1950, 1953           |
|  | 57 | Newsletters and Reports, 1945-1955  |

##### **Publications, Reports, Clippings**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
|   | 58 | Clippings, 1933-1956  |
|   | 59 | Leaflets and Pamphlet, ca. 1925, 1931, 1945, 1947           |
|   | 60 | Publications and Clippings, 1945, 1952-1959                 |
|   | 61 | Data Sheets, Reports, Map, Dedication, 1953, n.d.           |
|   | 62 | Reports, (including an E.L. Perry Survey Report), 1948-1956 |
| 9 | 63 | List of Haines Children, June 1, 1949                       |

## Finding Aid to Record Group 301.3

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
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### Historical Sketches

64	Historical Sketches, 1945-1946, n.d.
65	1951, 1955

### SUBSERIES V: HAINES HOSPITAL, 1913-1918

9	66	Record of House Patients, 1913-1918 (1 vol.) (OVERSIZE BOX)
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### BOX 10: OVERSIZE (LEGAL SIZE) FOLDERS



# **Contents of Reel #10**

**Box 3:**

**Folders:**

**1-10**

# **Box 3**



**Series 1:  
Missionary and  
Field  
Correspondence  
1890-1965**

**Subseries 1:  
Missionary  
Correspondence  
1897-1965**



**Folder 1:  
Peterson,  
Ralph S.  
(Codova)  
1938-1939**

# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

January 14, 1938.

Rev. John M. Somerndike,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

In reply to your letter, I wish to thank you for the confidence you have so obviously reposed in me. It has always been my desire to serve where it seemed that God's will directed. Should you so request and should it be His will, I could only accept.

Before such a decision were made, however, there are a good many questions which must be considered. First as concerns the Cordova field. I have always felt sensitive to ill feeling and opposition and have recognized it where it existed. I may be mistaken but in so far as I know, there is only the warmest and most friendly feeling in the whole town toward us and toward the church. The work of the local church has grown steadily in these two and one-half years. Our evening attendance has ranged quite consistently between fifty and eighty. Our Sunday School average has been about seventy. We have a young people's group after church that has averaged eighteen in attendance. We are building an adult-centered morning service. Since our coming there have been about a dozen adult conversions or re-affirmations with double that number of young people.

We have raised over eleven hundred dollars in ten months. We have done a three hundred and eighty dollar paint job, a fifty dollar rewiring job with B - X Cable, installed a new section in the boiler at a cost of sixty dollars and the fire escape at a cost of one hundred and six dollars with about seventy-five dollars of minor miscellaneous repairs. In the same period the Ladies Aid has built new kitchen cup-boards and sink board at thirty-five dollars, a new electric stove, and incinerator, \$135 and a new oil heater about eighty dollars. These have been essential repairs. We still need a reshingling and painting of our roof which will cost about six hundred dollars. We plan also a re-arranging of the interior of the church and painting and papering in the manse.

All of these things have occurred with the closing of the Railroad and mines and with the consequent moving away of many people. Still the attendance and the giving



has increased. It has increased more than anyone has anticipated. These folks are coming to us with their problems and it seems that eventhough it is discouraging to minister to people who are unemployed and to live in a town that is being decimated in population, we are being enabled to serve God in a way that we have never done elsewhere. I honestly feel that a new man, no matter, how superior his qualifications, could not come in as a stranger and meet the needs of these people just now. Therefore as regards Cordova, I feel that a change now might not be wise.

Now as to my qualifications for this job, the least satisfactory of my work here has been the native work. I am not a singer and cannot lead music. With a vested choir of fifteen voices in our church, this is not a great handicap. With the natives in the government school, this is serious. I imagine this would be equally true in holding meetings in canneries and isolated native villages.

Before coming to Alaska, I had never been around water nor had anything to do with boats. I am not naturally mechanical. While of course I would do my best to take proper care of such a boat as the "Princeton" I would not enjoy being responsible either for its navigation or its upkeep.

These phases of the work, i.e. conducting small meetings, work with the natives, and navigation of a boat, are all out of the range of my experience. Other phases are appealing. I have greatly enjoyed summer conference work and would enjoy being used in strengthening churches as you suggested in your first paragraph.

Your description of the many phases of the duties of this general missionary are somewhat frightening, including being pastor of a native church at Petersburg, S.S. missionary work via the Princeton, and travelling missionary work in the two Presbyteries. Of course it is difficult to get an adequate idea at this distance.

I am sure that Mrs. Peterson would feel that my being away from home a great deal would be a very real sacrifice. A Salvation Army Lassie who comes through here has told us of her great loneliness in Petersburg where they also work with the natives and of the isolation of anyone who is not a member of the Lutheran Church there. Here we have such warm congenial friendships with all of our people that the prospect of such loneliness is far from attractive.

I have tried to write my reactions as honestly as I can. I do not want you to feel that I do not appreciate your thought of me but in all honesty, I doubt if I am the man for the job. If someone could be found who is somewhat musical, who is a bit more mechanical by nature, and who does not have a family or whose family is grown enough not to tie down the minister's wife to such loneliness as appears on the surface, - that person would seem better fitted to the work outlined.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*



# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

Chitina, Alaska

June 30, 1938.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

This letter is written while on one of my infrequent visits to the interior. They are infrequent both because we are busy in Cordova and because transportation is not always available. Between weddings, funerals, vacation church school, and high school functions it was impossible to get away until now. Trains only started running after the middle of April.

So far this has been an interesting and profitable if somewhat hectic trip. On boarding the train at Cordova, Monday morning at nine a.m., I found that my only other passenger was a Seventh Day adventist missionary and book salesman. I was not delighted with this, but endeavored to make his trip as pleasant as possible by explaining some of the remarkable country through which this road goes.

As the train only goes one hundred and thirty five miles the first day, it is necessary to stay over night at Chitina. I did some calling Monday afternoon and discovered that I was desired for a wedding Thursday. Also I found that the train schedules were such that it would be almost impossible for me to hold services at both Kennecott and Chitina. Later that evening I succeeded in persuading R.J. Storey, superintendent of the Bridge and Building department to stay over night in Kennecott on Tuesday and bring me back to Chitina on Wednesday. Mr. Storey is treasurer of our Cordova Church and a fine accomodating friend. He did this at some inconvenience to himself.

I arrived at Kennecott Tuesday noon, made fifteen calls, and arranged for and conducted a service at eight o'clock that evening. Because my plans had been so uncertain, I had not been able to notify them of my coming. Consequently I did not have as large an attendance as usual. The offering was better, being \$14.25

Wednesday morning Mr. Storey and I left on his speeder. These speeders are in reality just ordinary automobiles with Railroad wheels rather than tires for the highway. We had a pleasant trip visiting the section crews and some ranches on the road down. We also stopped at nearly every bridge and culvert (and there

# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

are lots of them) to examine their fitness and need of repairs. Chitina was reached about one o'clock.

The afternoon was spent in calling. I reached every house in the town and sent word to the native village as well. I made fifteen calls and had twenty-three at the service. The collection here was small, only \$3.30. With all meals \$1.00 each we have to watch our expenses.

The most unique experience was in using the Seventh Day Adventist missionary and book salesman in leading the music. Our people at these mines are of a high intellectual caliber and there was no danger of their mistaking our friendly cooperation as an endorsement of his salesmanship or doctrine. On the frontier, a spirit of friendliness is of the greatest importance.

It was a pleasure to meet all my friends in the interior. They are a fine people and it is a privilege to bring them a gospel message. Their welcome is always so warm and their appreciation of a worship service is so evident that it always warms one's heart. Alaskans are not demonstrative about their religion but many, deprived of their church, have not lost their spiritual life and their response is almost pathetically pleasing.

The greatest tragedy facing this country is the closing of the Kennecott mines and the Copper River Railroad. Men and women who have spent the best years of their lives working for these enterprises are suddenly finding themselves facing permanent unemployment. In nearly every heart there is fear of the future. Our heart goes out to these people but there is little that one can do to help. We are like those on a boat that is slowly but inevitably sinking with no rescue in sight. Surely the Gospel of the Living Christ has a message for such as these and our only assurance is that of Paul that "All things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purposes". We can only bring the call and tell of His Love as it is manifested through Christ. Your missionary and his wife need the thoughtful prayers of fellow Christians in these months that lie ahead.

Yours in His Service,

*Ralph S. Peterson*



# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

July 23, 1938.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

*our Vacation Bible School*

~~Dear Dr. Somerndike:~~

*Young People's Work at Cordova*

Enclosed you will find a newspaper clipping which gives a fair summary of the work of our Daily Vacation Bible School. We have written you concerning our school before but failed to send this write-up. [Everything considered, I feel that this was the most successful school I have ever conducted. On the closing day, a group of boys came in, keeping step, and saying together "We want more Bible School, we want more Bible School". Of course we appreciated this as it seemed to voice the general feeling of all the boys and girls. Not only did they thoroughly enjoy the school but we feel that they did accomplish things and learn a great deal.

The Fourth of July in Alaska is a real red letter day. The Chamber of Commerce always issues an invitation for a naval boat, and this year we were sent the U.S. S. Chester from San Diego. Often the visit of a naval boat is not an unmixed blessing, but this time we enjoyed them very much. There was a Chaplain on board and through him we met a number of officers and men. I took a group of them fishing and we were happy to be able to help them to feel that the territory is a friendly place. The Chaplain was very congenial and he invited Mrs. Peterson and myself to lunch and told us much about his work, all of which was helpful as a part of our work has to do with coast guard people when the cutter is in port.]

Last week the boat brought two of our former parishioners from Medford, Oregon, - a very happy surprise for us. Then this week Miss Anna B. Orbison, of our board of national missions work, recently retired as community worker at Cranks Creek Community Center, Kentcucky, paid us a call. We enjoyed her so very much. These surprise calls from the outside world are a joy to us.

[Last night, Mrs. Peterson's Sunday School class had a most delightful dinner and in spite of the fact that this is the busy canning season, twenty-six young people sat down to dinner. As a theme or rather as the analogy for our after dinner talks we used, "The Copper River and Northwestern Railway". *or the Iron Trail* The toast-master, a young man of about twenty-two, brought an electric train which we used as a center-piece, placing it on a large ping pong table which was in the center of a hollow square, the young people being seated about the hollow square. The first talk was "Constructing the Railroad" in which the speaker brought out the fact that building a young people's group is like building a railroad to the Kennecott mines. There are rich mines of fellowship with each other and with the Savior



rich mines of personal development in the way of creative discussion, worship, dramatic and musical expression to be had if we take the trouble to build a railroad (a young people's group) to work together to mine the ore. Another talk was on "Boom Days". Mrs. Peterson spoke last on "The Sequel to the Iron Trail" bringing out the fact that when our railroad closes, there still will be copper at Kennecott and sometimes it ~~will~~ have to be mined and it will be mined. We are not sure as to the proper method of getting that ore. Perhaps it may not be by rail. Perhaps some other means will have to be worked out. So with our young people's work, we are not sure which methods will work best in mining the rich ore of fellowship with each other and with Christ, but we must work until we find the very best methods. Mrs. Peterson brought out the fact that she and I had no set ideas as to the way we should mine this ore but that we were eager to help them write the Sequel to the Iron Trail.

After a jolly sing and these talks we divided the group into three sections, naming them as follows: The Cordova Air Service, The Copper River and Northwestern Railway, and the Alaska Steamship Company. Then we worked out various group stunts and contests and this produced much merriment generally. We closed promptly at 10:15 as our young people are working very hard in the canneries and they need their rest very much indeed.

There seems to be a growing restlessness among our people as the summer advances. People who are about to lose their jobs are very nervous and pre-occupied. We need the prayers of all our friends just now that we may find a way to help our people and our church in these trying days of readjustment. Just what the closing of the road will mean is problematical. It has not helped the general morale of Cordova to have it rain so incessantly either. Sometimes we feel that the most important note in the Christian gospel for Cordova just now is the Gospel of Good Cheer and Encouragement and Understanding. To feel the deep interest of the people who are back of us in New York means much to us.

You will be interested to know how interested the tourists on the boat were in Mr. Youel and in his talks as he came back up north. His visit to us was an inspiration even if it had to be very short. Mr. Youel is deeply respected in the churches throughout the territory.

Cordova was honored last week by a visit from Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Smalley. Mrs. Smalley is the most worthy grand matron of Eastern Star. Her husband, though now working in the Methodist church as he lives in a town where there is no Presbyterian work, was an elder in our church for years. Both of them spoke in our church. Mrs. Smalley's testimony that in her life the church always came first, far before her lodge. This in view of the fact that she is the world matron of her lodge, was quite an telling witness to these lodge-minded people. She said this not only in the church but also at the public tea, before the lodge, and at a small breakfast at which Mrs. Peterson and I were present. They were an inspiration to us. We wish we might have more such visitors.

Thanking you for your concern and deep interest for the work of our church,

Very sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*

Aug.  
9th  
1938

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

I greatly enjoyed your letter of July 23rd. I am delighted to learn that your vacation Bible school was such a complete success and that it was the best you have yet held. I want to express also my appreciation of your resourcefulness in the plans that you developed for the young people's class. That was a wonderfully fine thing to do. I cannot think of anything that would tie the young people to the church more effectively than to bring them together under such circumstances. Such experiences serve to expand their minds as well as their opportunities.

I hope that the adjustments that are necessary due to the closing of the railroad will not seriously affect the work of our church. You can be of great service during this period of adjustment in giving the people the gospel of good cheer and understanding and in helping them to meet conditions such as this with a fortitude and purpose that will carry them through.

With every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH



# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister  
J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

September 17, 1938.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,  
Presbyterian Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find my reports and also a copy of a news letter which I am sending to Dr. Kistler of Rochester, N.Y. and Dr. Fahl of Spencer, New York and to Miss Gerturde Vint of your office as well as other friends. You may also be interested in the enclosed newspaper write-up of our church dinner and reception for the Public school teachers. Very fortunately a number of our teachers are a real asset to our church life here.

We had a glorious weeks vacation at Strawberry Point with three of our church families. While it was definitely not a church undertaking but a vacation for us all, we had such a splendid fellowship that all have come back as better church workers than ever before.

The entire church family is deeply distressed because our church pianist, Mrs. Jack Faulds (nee Edith Kathryn Smith) has contracted tuberculosis. She is at present with Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Smith at Aberdeen but she will probably have to enter a sanatorium. Mr. Smith you will remember as our senior elder who was delegate to General Assembly before our coming here. Tuberculosis is very common in Alaska and particularly so in Cordova because of our excessive rainfall.

You can see from our news letter that things are not too bright here but we are far from discouraged.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*

*P.S. Would you give Miss Vint a copy of our news letter? Thank you.*

*R.S.P.*

*9/26/38*



# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

October 23, 1938.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

It is with some hesitancy that we report the good news of our church activities this fall for fear that the present growth may raise your hopes concerning this field beyond any possible fulfillment. Actual mining operations ceased at Kennecott on October 15th. Just now the companies are "folding up their tents" and the last train is scheduled to leave on November 7th. Some unforeseen happening may force operations to continue a little longer but the end of November is destined to see the cessation of all activities of mine and railway. Undoubtedly some people connected with these enterprises will remain in Cordova for some months to come. A few officials will probably continue on the payroll for from three to six months. Others may stay in Cordova for the winter without an income. They will still need the church and we can look to them for church attendance, but we cannot expect anything substantial in the way of financial support from these people. Our canvas here ordinarily comes in November, but we approach that time with fear and trembling because of this situation. The principal industry of a small town like this cannot be entirely removed without drastically affecting every business concern and every fraternal and religious organization.

But enough of the dark side of the picture which after all has not yet entirely materialized. In spite of (or could it be because of?) the local economic situation, the church seems miraculously to have taken on new life. For the last month our Sunday School has been running between seventy and eighty. We have a better teaching staff than at any time since our coming. Our adult-centered morning service has been slowly increasing in attendance. Our evening service has at least doubled in attendance.

We are very proud of our new vested choir of some eighteen voices. Their support enhances the warmth and beauty of our evening worship in a way that nothing else could. The director of this new choir is Mrs. Martin Fredeen. Mrs. Fredeen is the finest musician in Cordova. When we came here she sang at the Catholic church. However because she had been divorced and had been married again to a non-Catholic she no longer felt at home there. Because of many mutual friends, we became acquainted with her personally. One day she said to me, "Mr. Peterson, I have no real church home. I am not admitted to the sacrament in the Catholic church. If I should die, I would be buried like a pagan." The breach with the Catholic church widened and finally she joined the Eastern Star Lodge which was of course



a complete severing of connections in the eyes of the Catholic church. One day she came to help a group of us arrange the church for a beautiful church wedding. As we worked together, I said to her, "Mrs. Fredeen wouldn't you like to help us with our choir". To my surprise she was very much pleased. We lost no time in calling a meeting of those interested in choral work and within two weeks the new choir was organized and ready for its first appearance.

Our observance of World-Wide Communion was at the 7:45 evening hour. Because of our geographical location, does not this hour make us the last Presbyterian church to observe the sacrament on that day? Our people are very responsive to candle-light services and at their request, the church was lighted entirely with candles for this evening. In the back of the church we improvised a tall altar covered with a white cloth on which we placed a cross and a chalice, used in the early days of the church. In the communion meditation, I pointed out that the altar might suggest to us not that Christ be sacrificed anew in the elements of the sacrament but that we present our lives as living sacrifices, dedicating ourselves anew in personal allegiance to Him. The candles suggesting the diffusion of light symbolized the diffusion of the message of the Christ throughout the world making possible a world-wide participation in the sacrament of His supper. There were eighty communicants at this service. This is the largest number to take communion at any service in the history of Cordova church, in so far as we have been able to ascertain.

You will be interested in the group which meets in our apartment on Sunday evenings after church. It has been our observation that many young people who come to Alaska drift into the wrong crowd and we were distressed to see many of them accept the lower standards of that crowd and become less fine and less interested in things that are uplifting and enobling. We have often felt that that many times this occurred as a result of sheer loneliness. We wished that we might do something about it but have been at a loss to know what to do. We have tried to be friendly to all young people and to invite them to our home. Gradually we discovered that we had acquired a little circle of friends among this age group and it was from them that the suggestion came "Let's all do something together". We were delighted. We invited them all to stay after church one night for quiet recreation and a cup of coffee and birthday cake made in honor of two of the girls who happened to have a birthday. Then over the coffee talk drifted naturally to "what can we do next?"

Mrs. Peterson had seen sometime previously a paper written by one of the group on "My Philosophy of Life" written while the author was a sophomore in college. It was suggested that this would be an excellent paper to start an evening of discussion. Two of the young men volunteered to provide light refreshments. The next Sunday evening was highly successful. The paper brought forth many interesting things out of the personal experiences of those present. The third Sunday night we decided to have a panel discussion on an article appearing in "The Readers' Digest" on a "Minister's Mail". Three young people led in this discussion and it proved so interesting that another meeting was given to it.



Next Sunday evening's meeting is to be built around music. Radio reception is very poor in Cordova and we have no orchestra in the community and very few instrumental musicians. We are all music hungry. Someone has offered a fine radio victrola with an extraordinary collection of excellent records from some of the operas. A young woman who knows music was asked to prepare this evening of music with interpretations of the records to be played. Those who have heard the operas are to have an opportunity to tell us about them. Each Sunday evening we eat and play one or two quiet games. We have never yet asked anyone to serve and it does make us feel good to have different ones come to us and ask for the privilege of providing refreshments.

We do not plan to make an organization out of this Sunday evening group. We feel that what these young people need is not an organization but a fellowship. We shall not plan our programs weeks ahead. We expect our programs to grow out of our fellowship. They like to meet in our apartment because the Ladies of our church have furnished the living room to look home-like. Thoughts of God and our personal fellowship with Christ come very naturally to all of us when such a group is together; questions come up in which all feel free to share in the answering. It is true that we would be at a loss with this group without the presence of a few Christian young people in whose lives Christ has unquestioned preeminence but with their leavening influence we have high hopes of these after-church Sunday evenings.

Mrs. Peterson is very much pleased with the Westminster International Lessons which you suggested for her class. The lessons on the commandments and the teachings of Jesus seem to appeal to her high school girls and to have a real bearing on their every day lives.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*



Nov.  
10th  
1938

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

I have your letter of October 23rd. It is our earnest hope that the people of the church will respond in the usual generous manner in connection with your Every-Member canvass and that the results will be such as will dispel all your fears.

We hope that the closing of the Kennecott mines will not prove to be such a catastrophe, so far as Cordova is concerned, as the people have feared. In the long run, it may be greatly to the benefit of Cordova. Let us hope so.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Dec.  
23rd  
1938

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

We are looking for a man to act as general missionary in Alaska Presbytery, who would also be expected to make at least one trip a year into the Yukon Presbytery. Possibly he would have to go oftener. Frankly, I have been thinking about you in this connection. Such a missionary would not have any authority superseding the authority of the Presbytery, nor would he be clothed with authority from the Board. His work would be that of inspiring the ministers and workers, strengthening the churches by helping them in the development of their local problems, the introduction of new and better methods, and counselling and advising the Board with reference to the conduct of the work in the whole field.

Another important phase of the work would be evangelistic itinerations among the fishing and canning villages where there is no church or other religious influence. As the means of transportation we would place under this general missionary's direction the mission boat "Princeton", employing a competent operator in place of the present missionary, Mr. Swanson, who will either retire from the work or be transferred to some other field.

As I have stated, my mind has been turning toward you as one who possesses the qualifications for this work. I do not know whether it would be congenial to you or not, and my purpose in writing now is not to definitely offer you the position but to inquire whether you would feel attracted toward such a position if it were offered to you by the Board. The salary would be no more than you are now receiving. You probably would live at Petersburg, where we do not now have a full-time minister but where we have a church which you could serve whenever you were not itinerating, with possibly the help of a native worker to look after things during your absence. You would be absent from home a good deal of the time. I do not know whether this aspect of the job would appeal to you and Mrs. Peterson, or not. She would have to be willing to make the sacrifice of having you away from home a good deal of the time.

I will be glad if you will think it over and let me know your reactions to the idea.

Faithfully yours,



Jan.  
24th  
1939

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

I have your letter of January 14th.  
I admire your devotion to your present work and field.  
Under the circumstances I think your decision with  
reference to the possibility of a change such as I  
suggested in my recent letter is not only wise but  
right. I coveted you for the job of general mission-  
ary, but after reading your letter and weighing the  
whole matter carefully I am convinced that it would  
be wrong for you to leave Cordova.

May God continue to bless you as  
He has in the past.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Cordova, Alaska.

February 7, 1939.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CORDOVA, ALASKA.  
Year 1938/39.

The Trustees have had four regular meetings during the fiscal year, and numerous conferences and informal meetings.

The Trustees have taken care of the maintenance and repair of the church edifice, the janitor service, finances of the church and have provided fuel and necessary supplies.

This year the fire escape from the manse was built, costing \$106.00, \$50.00 of which was received from the Board. A section of the heating boiler in the basement was replaced, at a cost of \$60.00. Other minor repairs have been made as needed.

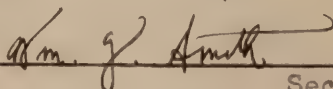
Mr. T. A. Baake was appointed Treasurer to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Storey. Miss Mae Peckham was appointed Financial Secretary to assist him.

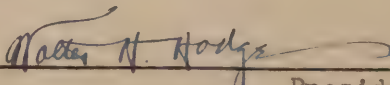
This year it was decided to postpone the Every member canvas until March. By doing this subscriptions will start April 1st conforming with the fiscal church year. This resulted in a loss of annual donations ordinarily received during the fiscal year, but which it is expected will be made up during the coming year.

Of twenty-seven regular subscribers a year ago (not including annual subscriptions, or donations), but eighteen remain, and of these but twelve have been regularly paying their subscriptions. The number and amount of regular subscriptions must be increased in order to properly provide for the support of the church.

Major repairs which need be done during the coming year include repairing the roof, and replacing the sidewalk in front of the church edifice.

The Board appreciates the support received by all organizations and the officers and members of the church during the past year.

  
Secretary.

  
President.



# Report of Church Treasurer

1938-39

February 7, 1939.

## Receipts

Envelope collections	548.57
Loose collections	476.16
Ladies Aid	165.00
Sunday School (cash, 11.00; fuel 30.00)	41.00
Donations	11.42
By note	100.00
	<u>1,342.15</u>
Bal. on hand 2-8-38	4.51
Total	1,346.66

## Disbursements

Pastor's salary	685.00
Janitor's salary	120.00
Pension fund	43.70
Notes and int.	125.00
Fuel (cash, 84.84, S. S. 30.00)	114.82
Lights and water	42.36
Repairs	156.07
Printing	20.35
misc.	22.25
Music	10.43
	<u>1,340.07</u>
Bal. on hand 2-7-39	6.59
	1,346.66

## Accounts Payable

Alaska Public Utilities	6.60
Date and Stalling	80.87
Cordova Daily Times	8.75
Pension fund, to April	27.99
Insurance, Board of Natl. Missions,	95.00
Hauling wood, Frank Hoover	1.75
E. Berg, plumbing	9.00
Presbytery dues,	49.00
	<u>288.96</u>
Bank balance,	6.59
Deficit	282.36

Note: Above does not include last installment received from Ladies Aid, \$15.00, received too late to be included in this report, nor \$1.16 credited to interest, in savings account.

Church Treasurer.

BUDGET  
1939-1940

	Budget 1938-39	Expenditures 1938-39			Budget
		Pd.	Unpd.	Total	
Pastor's salary	\$ 660.00	685.00	-----	685.00	660.00
Presbytery tax	21.00	-----	24.50	24.50	24.00
Pension fund	56.00	43.70	13.23	56.93	56.00
Fuel	120.00	114.82	1.76	116.57	150.00
Water and lights	40.00	42.35	6.60	48.95	45.00
Janitor	120.00	120.00	-----	120.00	120.00
Repairs	120.00	156.07	80.87	236.94	230.00
Printing	50.00	29.00	8.75	37.75	30.00
Music	10.00	10.43	-----	10.43	10.00
Misc.	50.00	22.25	-----	22.25	15.00
Totals, current expense and repairs,	1257.00	1223.72	135.70	1359.42	1340.00
Deficit-bills payable	90.50				282.35
	1347.50				1622.35

\* Note. Includes \$25.00 paid on previous year.

\* Note. Repairs budgeted for past year figured current repairs only; major repairs to be provided for by special donations.  
Budget this year includes the following:

Repairs to roof,	\$160.00
" " sidewalk	60.00
Incidental repairs	20.00
	230.00

Estimated Receipts

	Est. 1938-39	Raised	Est. 1939-40
Subscriptions	729.00	548.67	600.00
Loose collections	300.00	476.16	475.00
Ladies Aid	180.00	180.00	190.00
Sunday School	50.00	41.00	30.00
Annual Donations	88.50	11.42	102.00
Special donations or loan, to cover repairs	-----	-----	235.00
	1347.50	1257.15	1622.00

Board of Trustees

By \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman.

Secretary.



# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

February 10, 1939.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,  
Presbyterian Board of National Missions,  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find copies of the board of trustees and treasurer given at our annual meeting held Tuesday February 7, 1939. As this was a season of very cold weather, we held the meeting upstairs in the manse to save a coal bill. About twenty-five were present. After the business meeting there was a pleasant social hour with cake and coffee served by the Ladies' Aid.

The reports were all most encouraging considering the fact that we are facing such dire results from the closing of the mine and railroad. (The merchants estimate a loss in revenue of \$415,000 per year. In a town of 1200 that is a good deal!) The Ladies' Aid reported a total membership of thirty-eight organized into three circles. The work of the Aid and circles totaled \$372.34 with cash on hand of \$122.76. This however will have to be used to pay for the new oil-burning circulating heater for the manse. The aid has lost at least ten members by removal since October.

The Sunday School reports an average attendance of sixty-five with total receipts of \$223.10. The young people reported an average attendance of fifteen for these winter months with great interest and activity. The choir reported furnishing two musical numbers at every evening service during the last three months, special music for the community Armistice Day Service, and the giving of a Christmas Cantata at mid night Christmas Eve, and the preparation of special music for the meeting of the Presbytery of the Yukon and for Easter.

The reports of pastor and session show seven session meetings, the reception of nineteen new members, all save one coming by confession or reaffirmation, two dismissals, one restoration, and nineteen placed on the reserved roll. This makes our present membership forty-eight. There were six christenings, five young people baptized and two adults. There were seventeen funerals, eight weddings, three hundred and sixty pastoral calls, two services held at Chitina and Kennecott. Evening church attendance reached an all-time high during the last three months.

After the pastor's report, the meeting was turned over to Mr. W.H. Hodge for the corporation meeting. The financial activities of the church are well illustrated by the enclosed reports. The money raised this year is larger than that of any year since the building of the church. However due to the great amount of repairs necessary the expenses have exceeded the income. You will note

the adoption of a larger budget than heretofore. I am rather proud of this showing. Of course it would not be so good if the town were growing or even holding its own. In the face of a diminishing population and a depleted rayroll it is encouraging. The meeting closed with a vote of commendation for the pastor and his wife, the Ladies' Aid, the choir and the board of trustees for their work in the past year.

There seemed to be a true "esprit de corps" and a fine feeling of friendliness and cooperation in both the business meeting and the subsequent social hour. It is a joy to work with these people even under these trying conditions.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*



Feb. 24th  
1939

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

I have yours of February 10th, enclosing a copy of the report of the Board of Trustees, the report of the Church Treasurer, and the budget for the new year. I would like you to convey to the Board of Trustees and to the congregation our sincere appreciation of the splendid way in which they are carrying on, and I want you to know how much we appreciate your fine leadership which has led the congregation through these troublous times with courage and without the perceptible loss of any strength. Indeed it seems that God has blessed to your church the circumstances which you feared would be real adversities.

With every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister  
J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

March 31, 1939.

Miss Helen E. Wolf  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Miss Wolf:

I am writing you as requested by Mr. H. NoMorse. I should like to express my appreciation of Dr. Somerndike's very kind letters and our sorrow at his passing.

Affairs of Cordova Church are coming along very well. We are in the midst of the actual canvass. We do not know just what will be raised. Some who have always subscribed cannot make a definite pledge, but we are getting some new ones.

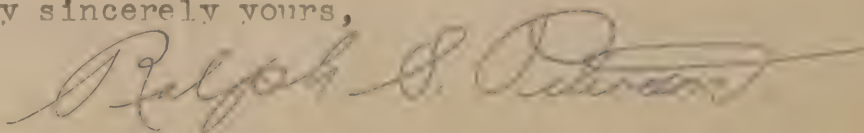
As usual, there are rumors that there will be no fishing in Prince William Sound. If that were to occur, we would be in a very serious condition. Nor have the serious effects of the closing of the railroad been fully felt as yet. We have lost a good many people, but as a rule large numbers go out every winter. It will be now with the coming of spring that the real difference will be felt. There will not be many returning nor can many new people come until there are new industries to take the place of the old.

Prospects are quite bright for a cold storage plant. This could not be built this summer. In other words while "God has blessed to this church the circumstances which I feared would be real adversities" (in the words of Dr. Somerndike's last letter) the full effect of those circumstances have not yet made themselves felt. I am sure that only God's grace and blessing can account for our amazing Sunday School and evening church attendance and for the great courage displayed by our church board in the plans that needed to be made.

We are just now losing our choir director. She has been one of the best that I have ever known. We shall not plan a large choir after Easter until the coming of fall. By that time we may discover another.

Since coming we have lost about thirty children by removal from the town, yet our Sunday School attendance is higher than it was two or three years ago. Our church attendance is also larger than when we came in spite of the fact that most of the members who were then here have gone elsewhere. Unless you have followed closely all of our correspondence with Dr. Somerndike, some of these statements may seem contradictory. If you have any questions which you would like to ask, I should be glad to answer them.

Very sincerely yours,





# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

April 29, 1939.

Miss Helen E. Wolfe  
Presbyterian Board of National Missions  
153 Fifth Avenue  
New York City.

Dear Miss Wolfe:

Enclosed you will find the report for March 15 to April 14. These reports do not give an entirely adequate picture of the service of this church to the community. As you may know we have a mission open five days a week with a cumulative attendance of about a thousand children a week. Nor is there an opportunity to list my activities in P.T.A., lodge, chamber of commerce, public health council, and such other activities as require attention. In a recent period, there was some activity every night for eight consecutive days without an evening at home.

You will note that the Easter attendance is not so high this year as last. Our average attendance has been better but when we have a large service, there just are not as many people here any more. For do we have as easy to unite with the church this year for the same reason.

We still do not know if there will be any fishing here. The people of the town do have a bad case of the "goldfrens". It is discouraging but we feel that in time there will be an adjustment and conditions will be better.

Sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*

# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

May 27, 1939

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister

J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

Miss Helen E. Wolfe  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

My dear Miss Wolfe:

Enclosed you will find a report for April 15 to May 14th. This has been a month of interruptions with a bad spell of influenza and a meeting of Presbytery. In these matters the report speaks for itself.

Just now a matter of real interest is the splendid action of our trustees. The kitchen has for a long time been in need of paint. At a trustees' meeting I brought the matter up offering to do the work and share the cost of the paint, even though we had just finished re-doing two other rooms at our own expense. It so happened that we were invited to spend a few days with one of our families who are quite isolated because their only link with town is by boat. When we returned we discovered to our delight a newly-painted kitchen and the church side-walk mended and a new coal chute. The painting was done by two trustees and the other repairs by another trustee. We understand that even Comptroller Zeusler, Captain of the U.S.C.G. Spencer wielded a paint brush for the good of the cause. It does mean something to have a board of trustees who care enough about the maintenance of their church property to give their leisure time to do something about it in such a very practical way as this. We did appreciate this token of their personal friendliness too.

Because of the continued severity of the measles epidemic, our Vacation School will have to be postponed another week. Measles has not visited Cordova for many years and thus it happens that many adults have had them and have had them in a severe form. Our Convey School and church attendance has been seriously cut in size. Inasmuch as the only real industry left to Cordova is the salmon industry, our church attendance will be sadly depleted during this canning season.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*



June  
8th  
1939

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Miss Wolf has referred to me your letter of May 27th since I am continuing to take care of the Alaska work as I have done in the past during Dr. Somerndike's frequent absences from the office. The letter of instructions which you received from Dr. Morse was written under such severe strain and pressure that he overlooked the fact that I had been assisting Dr. Somerndike with the Alaska work in the past.

We greatly rejoice with you in the fine cooperation of your trustees in repainting the kitchen of the manse. It must be a source of satisfaction to you to know that they so much appreciate your ministry among them.

With best wishes for your continued success in your work, I am

Very sincerely yours,

BH      UNIT OF ALASKAN WORK.

# First Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Alaska

RALPH S. PETERSON, Minister  
J. C. SMITH, Clerk of Session

August 12, 1939.

Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.  
Unit of Alaskan Work,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Friends:

Perhaps by this time Dr. King is in charge of Sunday School Missions and Alaskan work. If so this information should go directly to him.

Following a severe attack of Flu this spring, I never recovered a full measure of health. Finally, the doctor ordered complete rest and careful diet. The session and trustees voted to give me one month's vacation (this is the first vacation which I have had in the three years of my pastorate here). Because the summer season is the busy canning and fishing season, few lay workers were available to carry on and it was necessary to close the Sunday School and church services during this month.

We had originally intended to spend the month on an Island near here but the storms were so severe that we were forced to abandon our plans for camping out. Remaining at home, I was able to make sick calls and conduct funerals. I am hoping to be able to return to the work of the church greatly improved in health by next Sunday.

The local industrial and financial conditions are at a very low ebb. People are leaving Cordova in large numbers and many places of business are closing their doors. As yet the proposed cold storage plant is at a stand-still. The fishing season has been almost a total failure. We are planning a meeting of the board of trustees soon to discuss how to deal with the impending financial situation in the church.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ralph S. Peterson*



Aug.  
21st  
1939

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

As Dr. King is not expected in the office until September 1st, I am writing to acknowledge your letter of August 12th, and to extend my best wishes for a very speedy restoration to your usual good health. We were very sorry to learn of your illness and trust that you are now feeling very much improved.

In view of the very trying conditions in Cordova, we know that the people are relying more and more upon the comfort and guidance which you can give them. I trust therefore that you will resume your duties very gradually in order that you may not overtax your strength.

With best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

BH UNIT OF ALASKA WORK.

Aug.  
23rd  
1939

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
Cordova, Alaska

Dear Mr. Peterson:

In response to your wire received this morning together with a wire from Dr. Young, your physician, we have replied by telegram as follows:-

SORRY FOR NECESSITY OF OPERATION BOARD WILL GRANT LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND TRANSPORTATION FOR YOU AND FAMILY TO SEATTLE AND RETURN IN LIEU OF FURLOUGH DUE NINETEEN FORTYONE SHALL I WIRE FUNDS IF SO HOW MUCH BEST WISHES

We were deeply chagrined to learn of the necessity of your going to Cleveland to have an operation performed but trust that since this seems to be the only possible curative measure it will be entirely successful and will restore you to your accustomed good health.

As I wired you, the Board has consented to your taking your furlough at this time instead of in 1941 when it would have been due ordinarily. The expenses of yourself and family will be paid to Seattle and return - in accordance with our furlough regulations. In addition I shall endeavor to secure a pass for you (passes are not granted to any but ordained ministers) from Seattle to Cleveland. If it is possible to secure this pass for you, I shall have it sent to you in care of Mr. Gene C. Gould, 1204 American Bank Building, Seattle, Wash. When you arrive in Seattle, please call in his office and he will deliver the pass to you if granted.

Now with reference to the care of the field in your absence, I understand that you have developed very able local leaders and we trust that they can be depended upon to keep up the good work you have inaugurated. I am writing Mr. Youel to keep in touch with the church, but realizing the inaccessibility of Cordova we also know that it will not be possible for him to "run in" on the Cordova folks from time to time. However, you might instruct one of your elders or some other dependable person to make a regular monthly or semi-monthly report to Mr. Youel so that he may be informed of the existing conditions and be in readiness to aid in any way possible.



Assuring you that you will be constantly in our prayers  
and also of our desire to be of any service possible to you, I am

Cordially yours,

BH

UNIT OF ALASKA WORK.

P. S. If you are in need of an advance to cover your expenses,  
please let me know and I shall be glad to send it to you.

B.H.



Aug.  
25th  
1939

Rev. Ralph S. Peterson,  
129 Meadow Street,  
Renton, Wash.  
c/o Mr. Roy Storey

Dear Mr. Peterson:

In response to your wire received this morning, I am enclosing herewith our Board's check for \$149 to cover the cost of your tickets to Seattle. In addition you are entitled to the cost of your meals, and if you will send me a statement of the amount you have expended for this purpose I shall be glad to see that you are reimbursed.

Immediately after wiring you on August 23rd, I sent you the following letter which undoubtedly arrived after you left Cordova:

"Dear Mr. Peterson:

In response to your wire received this morning together with a wire from Dr. Young, your physician, we have replied by telegram as follows:-

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Assuring you that you will be constantly in our prayers and also of our desire to be of any service possible to you, I am

Cordially yours,

BLANCHE HOPP"

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I am hoping that the pass referred to in the above letter will be granted. If you have not already done so, I would suggest that you get in touch with Mr. Gene C. Gould of Seattle and make inquiries regarding it. I have written Mr. Gould regarding the matter and if the pass is granted he will hold it for you until you claim it.

If there is anything further that I can do for you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

With very best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

UNIT OF ALASKA WORK.

BH



